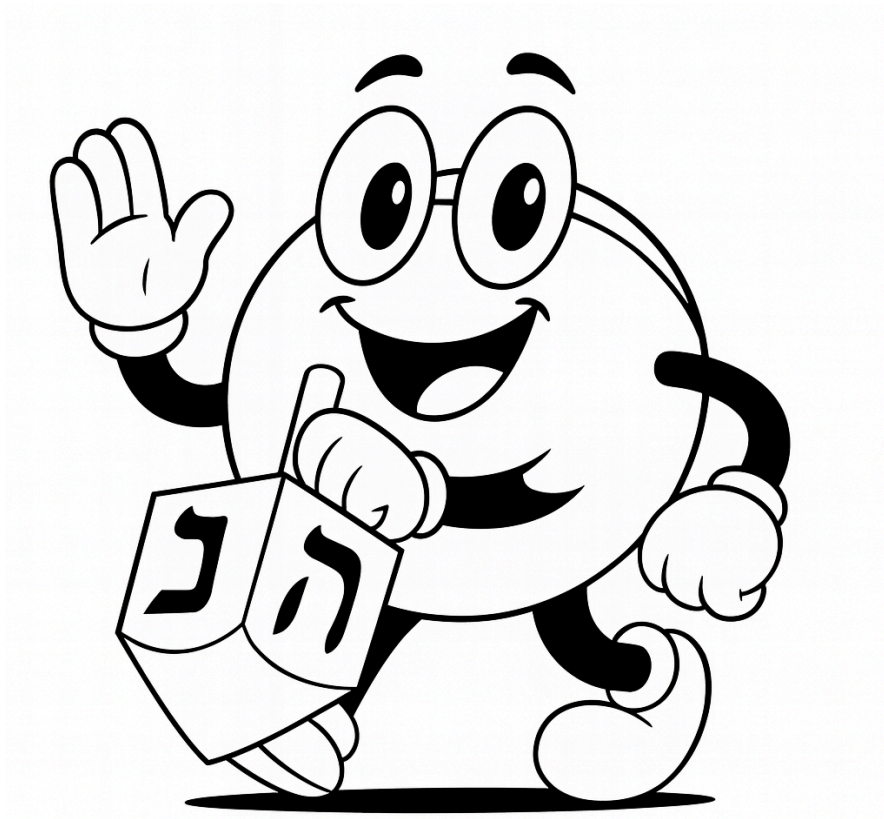


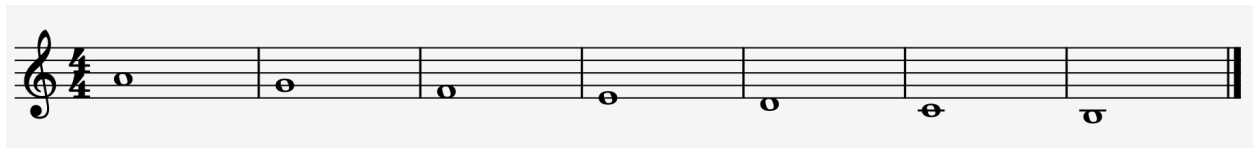
Lesson 39 – My Dreydl



Willie placed a spinning top on the staff and gave it a twirl. “This is a dreydl,” he said, “and it spins just like eighth notes in a steady beat.” The class sang *“I have a little dreydl, I made it out of clay”*, clapping to the rhythm. Each chorus returned with the same melody, showing strophic form. Willie explained how this Hanukkah song combines tradition, rhythm, and family celebration.

Warm-Up – Tone Builder

Play the notes in the staff below slowly as **whole notes**, then as **half notes**, and finally as **quarter notes**. Start from the first note as written and go down, then turn around and go back up to the first note in the score. Keep every note steady and focus on producing clean, long tones on your instrument.



Music Theory

This song is in **4/4 time** and uses stepwise motion. The chorus rhythm spins like a top, using a mix of **quarter notes** and **eighth notes**. The repeated eighth-note pattern in “dreydl, dreydl, dreydl” makes the music feel lively and continuous, just like the spinning of a dreydl. The melody is supported mostly by the **C major** and **G major** chords, giving it a strong tonal base while keeping the rhythm playful and steady.

Write the rhythm for “dreydl, dreydl, dreydl” with eighth notes.



Which chord often supports the melody?

Listening / Ear Training

Did the verses sound playful like a spinning top?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Did the chorus repeat the same words and notes each time?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Was the rhythm steady like spinning?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Music Form

This song is made of **four short phrases**. The first phrase ends on G, which feels open like a question. The second phrase answers by ending on C, making it sound complete. The third and fourth phrases repeat the same pattern, so the music feels balanced and easy to sing. The form is **A-B-A-B**, with question-and-answer phrases coming twice in a row.

Which phrase ends on G and feels open like a question?

Which phrase ends on C and feels complete like an answer?

How many times does the question-and-answer pattern repeat?

Why does repeating the same pattern make the song easy to remember?

Music History

This song comes from **Hanukkah**, a Jewish holiday that celebrates light, family, and tradition. Children often play with a dreidl, a spinning top, while singing this song.

Which holiday is this song connected to?

What traditional game is played with a dreidl?

How does music help keep traditions alive during holidays?

Reflection

Reflection – Everyone

Did our class performance sound steady and playful, like the spinning of a dreidl?

Reflection – Challenge

What was more challenging for you — keeping the quick eighth-note rhythm spinning evenly, or singing and playing the repeated chorus with the same energy each time?
